

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1365
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2002
ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT, 1955
SHYAMA SINGH

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether agriculturists in the country have urged the Union Government to scrap the Essential Commodities Act, 1955;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRIV. SREENIVASA PRASAD)

(a) to (c): In response to suggestions/views received from various quarters, Government have been reviewing the operation of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. The Central Government have issued an Order under the Essential Commodities Act by which any dealer may freely buy, stock, sell, transport, distribute etc., any quantity of wheat, paddy/rice, coarse grains, sugar edible oilseeds and edible oils and shall not require a permit or licence therefor under any Order issued under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. The provision of this Order will take effect after 30 days from the date of publication (15/2/2002) in the Official Gazette.